

PATENT

REMARKSDISCUSSION OF SPECIFICATION

The Cross-Reference to Related Applications has been amended to include updated information on the related application. Acceptance of the amended specification is respectfully requested.

DISCUSSION OF CLAIMS

In the Office Action, claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by WO 01/23040. In response thereto, claim 1 has been cancelled and dependent claims 2, 4, and 6 have been amended into independent form. As such, claims 2, 4, and 6 are now patentable. Furthermore, claims 3, 5, and 7 respectively depend from independent claims 2, 4, and 6 and are similarly patentable.

In the Office Action, claims 1-7 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,645,153. In response thereto, a terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR Section 1.321(c) and signed by the undersigned attorney is enclosed herewith that obviates the above double patenting rejection. An Associate Power of Attorney is filed herewith that makes the undersigned attorney of record in this application.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-7 are in condition for allowance.

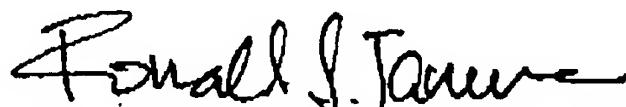
PATENT

CONCLUSION

In light of the above claim amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice of allowance is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

4/27/05
Date



Ronald S. Tamura, Reg. No. 43,179
Patent Attorney for Applicants
818-493-3157

Enclosure: Terminal Disclaimer Under 37 CFR 1.321(c)

CUSTOMER NUMBER: 36802

Serial No. 10/071,282

Page 10. of 10

Docket No. A02P1013US01